

Current Status of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A case, comprising:

a housing having a hollow interior and a channel proximate a perimeter of two longitudinal sides of said housing;

a first end cap secured to a first end of said housing, said first end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof;

a second end cap secured to a second end of said housing, said second end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof; and,

at least one elastic band positioned within said channel of said housing and said channel of said second end cap, said at least one elastic band operatively arranged to dispose said second end cap into a retained position in engagement with said second end of said housing.

2. (currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 1 further comprising at least two studs disposed within said channels of said housing; said studs adapted for passing said at least one elastic band therethrough.

3. (previously presented) The case as recited in Claim 2 wherein said second end cap further comprises at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith.

4. (withdrawn, currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 3 wherein said first end cap has a channel proximate a perimeter thereof and said at least one elastic band forms a closed loop.

5. (withdrawn, currently amended) The case of Claim 1 wherein said first end cap is removably secured to said first end of said housing and has a channel proximate a perimeter thereof;

said second end cap is removably secured to said second end of said housing; and,

said elastic band is positioned within said channel of said housing, said channel of said first end cap and said channel of said second end cap, said at least one elastic band operatively arranged to dispose said first and second end caps into a retained position in engagement with said housing.

6. (currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 5 further comprising at least two studs disposed within said channels of said housing; said studs adapted for passing said at least one elastic band therethrough.

7. (previously presented) The case as recited in Claim 6 wherein said first and second end caps each comprise at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith to secure said first and second end caps to said housing.

8. (withdrawn, currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 7 wherein said at least one elastic band forms a closed loop.

9. (withdrawn) The case as recited in Claim 1 comprising first and second linear elastic bands; said first linear elastic band operatively arranged to urge said first end cap against a first end of said holder and said second linear elastic band operatively arranged to urge said second end cap against a second end of said holder.

10. (Canceled)

11. (currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 2 wherein said studs are adapted for securing a terminal end of said at least one elastic band.

12. (previously presented) The case as recited in Claim 11 wherein said second end cap further comprises at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith.

13. (withdrawn) The case as recited in Claim 1 comprising a pair of linear elastic bands.

14. (currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 13 further comprising at least two studs disposed within said channels of said housing; said studs adapted for securing a first free end of each of said pair of elastic bands.

15. (previously presented) The case as recited in Claim 14 wherein said second end cap further comprises at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said studs and operatively arranged for mating therewith; said second end cap adapted for securing a second free end of each of said pair of linear elastic bands.

16. (withdrawn, currently amended) The case of Claim 1 wherein said channel proximate a perimeter of said housing is disposed about said perimeter of said housing at two sides thereof;

said first end cap and said second end cap each having a channel disposed about a perimeter thereof; and,

said at least one elastic band is positioned within said channel of said housing, said channel of said first end cap and said channel of said second end cap.

17. (withdrawn, currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 16 wherein said at least one elastic band is operatively arranged to dispose said second end cap into a retained position in engagement with said second end of said housing.

18. (withdrawn, currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 16 wherein said at least one elastic band is operatively arranged to dispose said first end cap into a retained position in engagement with said first end of said housing.

19. (withdrawn) The case as recited in Claim 16 wherein said first end cap is fixedly secured to a first end of said housing.

20. (previously presented) The case as recited in Claim 1 wherein said first end cap is fixedly secured to said first end of said housing and said second end cap is releasably secured to said second end of said housing.

21. (currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 20 further comprising at least two studs, said studs disposed within said channels of said housing and adapted for passing said at least one elastic band therethrough; said second end cap further comprising at least two alignment receptacles; said alignment receptacles having a shape complementary to said studs such that said studs mate with said receptacles.

22. (currently amended) The case as recited in Claim 21 wherein said first end cap has a channel proximate a perimeter thereof and said at least one elastic band forms a closed loop.

23. (currently amended) A case, comprising:

a housing having a hollow interior and a channel proximate a perimeter of two longitudinal sides of said housing;

a first end cap securable to a first end of said housing, said first end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof;

a second end cap securable to a second end of said housing, said second end cap having a channel proximate a perimeter thereof; and,

Attorney Docket No. UMBP:126US
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/604,580
Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2005
Date: August 3, 2005

at least one elastic band positioned within said channel of said housing and said channel of said second end cap,

wherein said first end cap is fixedly secured to said first end of said housing and said at least one elastic band is operatively is arranged to releasably secure said second end cap in mating engagement with said second end of said housing.